

April 2008

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Welcome Dr. Ishihara

We'd like to extend a hearty welcome to our new Endocrinologist, Dr. Kent Ishihara. He started working for the Clinic in March.

Bloom Fundraiser

Remember that our Bloom fundraiser will be held Friday, May 30th in KC's new Power & Light District. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Suzanne Lammert, Volunteer Coordinator, at: (816)777-2761 or suzannel@kcfree.org.

I expect to pass through life but once. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again. ~William Penn

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Clinic to Participate in 2008 AIDS Walk

KC Free Health Clinic will participate in the 2008 AIDS Walk. The AIDS Walk is coordinated by the AIDS Service Foundation of Greater Kansas City. Money from the Walk funds agencies in town that support AIDS prevention.

The 20th annual AIDS Walk Kansas City will be held Saturday, April 26th at Theis Park, at 47th and Oak Streets, just south of the Nelson-Atkins Museum.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Stage entertainment and Welcoming Ceremonies commence at 9:00 a.m., and at 10:00 a.m. sharp, WE WALK!

This year's theme, "Twenty Years of Life Changing Steps," reminds us of the extraordinary legacy thousands of caring walkers have passionately shared for those living with HIV/AIDS.

Last year more than 3,500 compassionate Walkers helped raise over \$420,000 to benefit Hope Care Center, Kansas City Free Health Clinic, Good Samaritan Project and Save, Inc.

If anyone is interested in being on the KC Free Health Clinic AIDS Walk team, contact Suzanne Lammert, Volunteer Coordinator, at (816)777-2761 or suzannel@kcfree.org.

Happy 37th Birthday to the Kansas City Free Health Clinic!

This April marks the 37th anniversary, or birthday, of the KC Free Health Clinic.

Originally known as the Westport Free Health Clinic, the Kansas City Free Health Clinic was founded in 1971 by a group of concerned citizens to serve the elderly and youth who lived in the Westport neighborhood of Kansas City.

Over 50 individuals attended a meeting at

St. Paul's Episcopal Church on January 13, 1971, to talk

about opening a free clinic in Westport.



Original founders of the KC Free Health Clinic

People attending this meeting were from all walks of Kansas City life...it was an interesting gathering of people from the medical community, from "Johnson County," and from the free-spirited hippie community!

Happy Birthday KC Free! Here's to many more to come.

Service Anniversaries

Congratulations to these volunteers who have service anniversaries in April. Thank you for your dedicated service.

15 YEARS:

Dr. Todd Fristo, Gen Med



Dr. Fristo

6 YEARS:

Dr. Mike Weaver, Gen Med



Dr. Weaver

5 YEARS:

Linda Hanway, RN, Gen Med

Kim Adams, Patient Assistant

3 YEARS:

Dr Tom Good, Village Pres Clinic

2 YEARS:

Justin Steinert, Patient Assistant & Lab Tech

Emily Favaregh-Green, Front Office

1 YEAR:

Kayla Baker, Patient Assistant

Nicole Ernst, Patient Assistant

National Volunteer Recognition Week

KC Free Health Clinic will be observing National Volunteer Recognition Week, April 27-May 3, 2008.

This is the week in which we recognize and thank all the volunteers who work so hard to allow the Clinic to function. We couldn't do it without all of you!

Your commitment to make a

difference in our community ensures that people receive much needed health care. KC Free Health Clinic is one of the most important services Kansas City has to offer.

Thank you to all who've contributed volunteer time at the Clinic to serve our community!

Welcome Back Jill Aberdeen

We'd like to give a hearty welcome back to Jill Aberdeen.

Jill originally volunteered at KC Free Health Clinic as an RN from August 2004-August 2006. She gave the Clinic 270 hours during that time.

She left in 2006 to attend the School of Nursing at Emory University in Atlanta, GA

and obtained a Family Nurse Practitioner degree.

Jill has returned to Kansas City, and she will now be conducting individual clinics in much the same way that Lieutenant Branch did when she was stationed here.

We look forward to working with Jill again and are happy that she's returned.

Where's Eric?

As you may have noticed, there have been some recent office changes in the Gen Med clinic area.

In the past, Eric's office was in "Room 15" of the Gen Med clinic area. Initially, that office space was used solely by him. Later, Eric and Anne shared that space, ultimately finding that it was a bit too crowded.

So now Eric and Anne have moved to the more spacious room formerly known as the "Research Lab." Their new office is located next to the lab.

The old Research Lab was previously used for HIV research. The Clinic is doing less of that type of research now, which has resulted in the opening-up of that space for office use.

The old Research Lab now houses offices for four people: Eric, Anne, Isabel, and Melissa.

HIV testing will now be done in "Room 15." See last month's newsletter for more information on the Clinic's exciting new rapid HIV testing program.

Eye Exams Coming Soon



The Clinic now has ophthalmologic equipment, thanks to a local Ophthalmologist who recently retired and donated his equipment to KC Free Health Clinic. In

addition to donating the equipment, he'll also volunteer to provide ophthalmological services here.

Many patients need yearly eye exams. They've not had access to them in the past, so this is a great added service that will benefit many.